

SAINT PAUL
bicycle advisory board

800 CHA, 25 West 4th Street, Saint Paul, MN 55112 – ph. 651-266-6217

JANUARY 2008 MINUTES

SUBJECT: Bicycle Advisory Board January 8, 200

ATTENDING: Eric Thompson, Mathew Cole, Paul Iovino, David Kuebler, Chris Budel, Kurt Shroeder, Richard Arey

ABSENT / EXCUSED: Eric Haugee, Robert Barbossa,

GUESTS: Ed Lehr, Ward 7 resident,
 Jessica Treat, Midway TMO
 Richard Newmark, former board member

SUBMITTED BY: Eric Thompson & David Kuebler

CALL TO ORDER: _____ 4:46 _____ P.M.

INTRODUCTIONS – Around the table. At the designated start time of the BAB meeting there were insufficient voting members to constitute a quorum. As such the meeting was not called to order until 4:46 PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Commander Iovino asked if he could complete his presentation in advance of Mr. Kuebler's presentation and in advance of the City Department reports due to a schedule conflict and his need to leave the meeting early.

M. Cole MOTIONED to amend the agenda to allow Commander Iovino to provide the police report in advance of David Kuebler's presentation and in advance of the other City Department reports as shown in the Agenda. SECONDED: Kuebler Vote: 4- 0

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES: M. Cole MOTIONED for approval of December Minutes be postponed until February meeting due to lack of quorum. SECONDED: Thompson
Vote: 4-0

POLICE REPORT => Commander Paul Iovino

- There are 182 bicycle "trained" officers on the force
- Trained bicycle patrol officers have the same authority as other officers such as the use of firearms, the authority to enforce traffic regulations, etc.
- They hope to focus on promoting safe bicycling in the City, participate in youth rodeos and train proper bicycling techniques
- Patrol sergeants determine how/when bike cops are used within a district

- Funding bicycle patrols is an issue – there is no budget for bike police and hence the ability to enforce rules and regulations is very limited
- RNC
 - Cmdr. Iovino stated that bikes will play a large role in the RNC,
 - The plan is to use a lot of bicycle patrols
 - There will be multiple Bicycle Rapid Response teams during the RNC
- Kuebler asked if bike cops are able to write citations for bicycling violations. Iovino said yes, but it rarely happens due to limitations as stated above.
- There was some discussion to explore more extensive bicycle enforcement.
- There was some discussion as to the role of the police on the BAB and towards the bicycle community; Iovino stated the role of the police is primarily in the education arena and being an ambassador by promoting safe bicycling events such as rodeos or providing a visible presence to motorists in the form of bicycle patrols. He stated he is willing to work with the BAB for such promotion and education as needed.
- Commander Iovino will review the policy and education within the department and provide an update to the Board at a later date.

KUEBLER PRESENTATION => David Kuebler, St. Paul Public Works

- Since Kuebler's qualifications were questioned by the BAB at the December meeting of the BAB as to whether or not he could be an advocate for bicycling, Kuebler requested to be put on the agenda to provide a summary of his qualifications.
- DK gave a brief description of his current role in Public Works along with his professional certifications and licenses.
- Over the last 3 years he has had a role in the development of over 21 miles of bike facilities.
- Kuebler stated that in as much as being able to provide a safe facility for bicyclists he would be able to be an advocate.
- Matt Cole had questions about the Como Ave. project followed by some discussion about 4-to-3 lane conversions.
- The Board stated that Kuebler could stay as the Public Works representative.
- Chris Budel, BAB Chair, apologized to Kuebler as to questioning his ability to be an advocate for bicyclists.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Chair Chris Budel stated he will miss the February/May/October meetings affecting discussion/selection of selecting new officers
- Thompson MOTIONED to delay the selection of new officers until February when more members are present. SECONDED: Schroeder . Vote: 5-0

MEETING LOCATIONS

- Chair Chris Budel and Ed Lehr (Ward 7 applicant) proposed meeting at different locations April – Oct to highlight different Wards of the City and to provide outreach to the residents via the BAB Ward Rep. They suggested:
 - Try one to see how it works
 - Meet at a district council and involve the Councilmember
 - Use 2 rec. centers as connectors to the meeting site

- The BAB regular meeting time would take place between 4:30 – 6:30 PM
- A ride would happen either before or after the regularly scheduled meeting
- Planning for the meetings would be done by the BAB ward reps and would take place during the two months preceding the event
- Kuebler suggested meeting at 1 location for the next few months due to inclement weather
- Thompson suggested involving Council member Stark as a pivot or the first Ward location for a meeting
- Thompson MOTIONED to meet at Como Streetcar Station in February. SECONDED: Cole. Vote: 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT => David Kuebler

- Kuebler reported that the Ayd Mill Rd. project appears as though it will lose funding since negotiations with the railroad have collapsed; Kuebler also stated that losing funding for the Ayd Mill Trail could jeopardize the St. Paul Greenway connection
- Plowing
 - Jessica Treat from TMO suggested
 - The BAB collect a definitive list of impacted routes
 - The BAB be provided with a clarification as to what type of equipment is available for snow removal
 - Kuebler and Treat agreed that the BAB and bicycling community
 - Should define what “clear of snow and ice” looks like
 - Should define the facility type, i.e. bike lanes, Share The Road, etc., to be targeted for the removal of “snow and ice
 - Should define after what minimum level of snow event, i.e. ¼”, ½”, etc, should Public Works begin removing snow/ice from bike lanes noting that the City does not declare a snow emergency until after a snow event of 3” or greater has taken place
 - That the pilot project route to be determined should be incremented to one mile increments so that costs of time and money could more easily be tracked
 - Kuebler also stated that
 - Public Works would track costs of snow removal of the pilot project route to be determined
 - Public Works would ensure that the current snow removal policy, especially the tagging and towing policy, is being applied in a practical manner
 - He will contact Henry Ung from Public Works to determine what the current tagging/towing policy is and how it is determined what area to tag/tow during a snow emergency
 - Thompson noted that
 - Snow emergency citations are not written by police officers but by Public Works personnel
 - Suggested that perhaps Public Works’ authority to tag and tow could be extended beyond the duration of the snow emergency in order to tag vehicles which are in the way of clearing bike lanes of snow/ice

- Jessica Treat noted that CM Stark is planning to meet with PW Director and the City Engineer to pursue this issue further

PARKS REPORT => Eric Thompson

- Thompson noted
 - The work on Como trails scheduled for this spring
 - The work on Cherokee trails scheduled for later in 2008 and
 - The work being planned for the Vento bridge connection to Morgan Trail.

BAB WORKPLAN

- Kuebler will try to provide an outline at the February meeting

MOTION to Adjourn: R. Arey SECONDED: M. Cole Vote: 5-0.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:36 PM

Next meeting: **Tuesday, February 5, 2008;** 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM at the Como Streetcar Station at the intersection of Lexington Parkway and Horton Avenue